



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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JENNIFER COHAN
SECRETARY

COUNCIL ON TRANSPORTATION

Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 23, 2015
DelDOT Administration Building
Dover Conference Room
4:00 PM

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Pete Nellius (Chairman), Lee Beetschen, Bobby Fifer, John Gilbert, Marty Lessner, and Sue McNeil

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

I.G. Burton, Sue McNeil, Ted Williams, and Carolyn Thoroughgood

DELDOT STAFF PRESENT ON RECORD:

Jennifer Cohan, Secretary; Nicole Majeski, Deputy Secretary; Drew Boyce, Director of Planning ; Shanté Hastings, Deputy Director Trans. Sol.; Robert McCleary, Chief Engineer; Mark Alexander, Director M&O; Hugh Curran, Director of Finance; Earle Timpson, Finance John Sisson, CEO Delaware Transit Corporation; Geoff Sundstrom, Director of Public Relations; Evan Park, Office of the Secretary; Fritz Schranck, DOJ/DelDOT; and Amanda Belford, Planning recording secretary.

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

Jeff Montgomery, The News Journal; Natalie Barnhart, RK&K; James Wilson, Bike Delaware; and Raymond Harbeson, Transportation Strategy Group.

Chairman Nellius called the meeting to order with a review of the October 29, 2014 Council on Transportation (COT) Meeting Minutes. Councilman Gilbert made the motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Councilman Beetschen and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Secretary Cohan opened with welcoming statements and appreciation to the council members for their role in COT. She gave remarks with a PowerPoint presentation highlighting FY2016 Source and Uses of Funds, DEFAC Revenues, Trust Fund Revenues,

FY2016 Operating Budget, FY2016 Capital Uses and DelDOT Innovation Plans. An additional discussion took place regarding the efforts at the I95 Newark Toll Plaza with Councilman Lessner questioning the drop in toll revenue figures from the discussion at the last COT meeting. Director Hugh Curran explained that there was a drop in the revenues but there are uncertainties if it is from divergence at the tolls. Over the last 5 consecutive months, there has been an increase in commercial traffic. DelDOT has invested in a pilot agreement for enforcement efforts with local towns and municipalities since November. Revenues have increased and DelDOT recently signed another agreement.

Drew Boyce reviewed the materials provided to the Council which highlighted a few changes to the Capital Transportation Program (CTP) from the document that went to the public in September. The program will continue the fundamental approach of State of Good Repair projects first. These projects will receive the majority of the Capital funds and include: Paving Program, Bridge projects, Safety projects, and other projects that keep the infrastructure up and running.

Drew reviewed the SR 1 Widening Project. The plan has construction money programed in FY16 for the auxiliary lane improvements to relieve congestion between Rte. 40 & Rte. 273 and funding in FY16 – FY17 for the diverging diamond interchange at SR 72 & SR 1. Other projects reviewed were the Mill Creek/Stoney Batter Road, Manor Avenue & Myrtle Avenue Sidewalk, Newark Train Station, SR 1 & NE Front Street, US 13 Lochmeath Way to Puncheon Run, Plantations Road, and Lewes Park & Ride. The Newark Train Station was awarded \$10 million through the Federal Tiger Grant program. DelDOT does not want the funds to expire and is advancing the project.

With no additional questions Drew reviewed the procedural steps, which include the consideration of the Council for adoption of the plan, moving forward to the Governor's Office and awaiting the Bond Bill (on or about June 30th). The Bond Bill will provide the state portion of the plan for FY16 and the Federal portion will begin October 1st.

Chairman Nellius requested a motion to adopt the FY16-FY21 plan. Council Member Lessner clarified if the letter of adoption will include the addendums discussed at the meeting. Drew clarified that the spreadsheet reflected the addendums. Council Member Beetschen motioned the adoption, Council member Gilbert seconded the motion, and the Council unanimously approved the motion.

In concurrence with this motion, Chairman Nellius signed a letter to Governor Markell detailing the unanimous approval of the Fiscal Year 2016 – 2021 Capital Transportation Program.

There being no additional business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Fifer, seconded by Council Member McNeil, and unanimously approved by the Council.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Belford - Recording Secretary